

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-6 and 8-11 as follows:

(31)

1. The novelty fashion wear item of claim 21, further comprising:
a removable layer covering said adhesive material; and
wherein said pad is sufficiently flexible to conform to the contoured shape of body parts selected from the group consisting of feet, hands, knees, elbows, shins, and parts thereof.
2. The method of decorating a body part according to claim 22, further comprising the steps of:
providing a peelable film to cover and preserve said adhesive material until used;
wherein the step of providing the lower surface with indicia includes:
selecting the indicia [selected] from at least one of the group comprising color, pattern, graphic design, text, advertising, relief design and texture;
wherein the step of providing a pad includes:
trimming said pad to a desired shape to apply to the contoured surface area of at least one body part selected from the group comprising feet, hands, knees, and elbows, and parts thereof;
peeling said film from said adhesive material; and
applying said pad to said selected body part.
3. The novelty item of claim 1, wherein said adhesive material is a reusable adhesive material allowing said pad to be removably secured more than once.

4. A novelty kit for providing decorative and disposable fashion wear for body parts that also protects the decorated body parts from abrasion, comprising:

a flexible, trimmable pad having top and bottom surfaces;

an adhesive material on said top surface for removably securing said pad to a body part;

a decoration to be applied to said bottom surface;

a removable layer covering said adhesive material; and

pre-formed, cupped pads for at least one of toes, knees, elbows, and animal pads.

5. A novelty kit for providing decorative and disposable fashion wear for body parts that also protects the decorated body parts from abrasion, comprising:

a flexible, trimmable pad having top and bottom surfaces;

an adhesive material on said top surface for removably securing said pad to a body part;

a decoration to be applied to said bottom surface;

a removable layer covering said adhesive material; and

material selected from cushioning, magnetic material, and gel disposed in said pad between said top and bottom surfaces.

6. The invention of claim 1, further comprising:

the addition of a first securing material layer to at least a portion of said bottom surface and a protective shell having a second securing material layer to engage securingly said first securing material layer; and

means for absorbing the shock of a blow to said shell.

8. The invention of claim 2, wherein said step of providing the upper surface with an adhesive material includes providing the upper surface with a reusable adhesive material.

9. A method of decorating and protecting a body part comprising the steps of:
furnishing a flexible pad having top and bottom surfaces;
providing an adhesive on said top surface and a peelable film to preserve said adhesive until used;
providing decoration selected from at least one of the group comprising color, pattern, graphic design, text, advertising, relief design and texture;
trimming said pad to a desired shape to apply to at least one body part selected from the group comprising feet, hands, knees, and elbows, and parts thereof;
peeling said film from said adhesive and applying said pad to a selected body part;
and
pre-formed cupped pads for at least one of toes, knees, elbows and animal pads.

10. A method of decorating and protecting a body part comprising the steps of:
furnishing a flexible pad having top and bottom surfaces;
providing an adhesive on said top surface and a peelable film to preserve said adhesive until used;
providing decoration selected from at least one of the group comprising color, pattern, graphic design, text, advertising, relief design and texture;
trimming said pad to a desired shape to apply to at least one body part selected from the group comprising feet, hands, knees, and elbows, and parts thereof;
peeling said film from said adhesive and applying said pad to a selected body part;
and

material selected from cushioning, magnetic, and gel disposed in said pad between said top and bottom surfaces.

11. The invention of claim 2 further comprising:

providing the addition of a first securing material layer to at least a portion of said bottom surface and a protective shell having a second securing material layer to engage securingly said first securing material layer; and

providing means for absorbing the shock of a blow to said shell.

Please add new claims 21-33 as follows:

21. A novelty fashion wear item, comprising:

a flexible pad having an upper surface and a lower surface with a non-slip texture; said pad being sufficiently flexible to conform to a contoured surface area of a body

part;

said pad having its upper surface coated with an adhesive material for removably securing said pad to said contoured surface area a body part to facilitate decorating said contoured surface area; and

said pad having its lower surface provided with indicia to decorate said contoured surface area.

22. (New) A method of decorating a body part, comprising the steps of:

providing decorative fashion wear;

said fashion wear including:

a flexible pad with a non-slip texture, said pad having an upper surface and a lower surface and being sufficiently flexible to conform to a contoured surface area of the body part;

providing the upper surface with an adhesive material for removably securing said pad to the contoured surface area of the body part;

providing the lower surface with indicia to decorate the contoured surface area of the body part; and

applying said decorative fashion wear to the contoured surface area of the body part for decorating purposes.

23. A fashion wear item, comprising:

a non-slip pad having a non-skin irritating adhesive material covering one of its surfaces and decorative indicia covering at least a portion of another one of its surfaces; and

a peelable material covering said non-skin irritating adhesive to protect the adhesive material until it is ready for use to facilitating decorating a contoured area of a user selected body part.

24. The fashion wear item according to claim 23, wherein said non-slip pad has a sufficient thickness to protect said contoured area of a user selected body part from abrasion when brought into engaging contact with a ground surface.

25. The fashion wear item according to claim 24, wherein said non-slip pad is a pad of water resistant ethylene vinyl acetate having a thickness of about one sixteenth of an inch.

26. The fashion wear item according to claim 24, wherein said adhesive material is acrylate polyurethane tape having about a 1.2 mil thickness with a layer of skin-compatible adhesive on one of its surfaces for facilitating removably securing said non-slip pad to said contoured area of a user selected body part.

27. The fashion wear item according to claim 23, wherein the decorative indicia is screen printed on said non-slip pad.

28. The fashion wear item according to claim 25 wherein the decorative indicia is screen printed on said pad of ethylene vinyl acetate.

29. The fashion wear item according to claim 23, wherein said non-slip pad is sufficiently flexible to conform to the contour of user selected body part consisting of a

group of body parts selected from the hands, fingers, feet, toes, knees and elbows of a user to provide decoration for the body part selected.

30. The fashion wear item according to claim 24, wherein said non-slip pad is selected from a group of materials consisting of rubber, fabric, paper, plastic, synthetic materials, leather, and polyurethane foam.

31. The fashion wear item according to claim 30, wherein said non-slip pad is trimmable and disposable after use.

32. The fashion wear item according to claim 23, wherein the decorative indicia is selected from an indicia group consisting of color, patterns, messages, trademarks, and advertisements.

33. A decorating method, comprising the steps of:

providing a pad of decorative fashion wear adapted to conform to the contour of a selected body parts; and

removably applying said pad of decorative fashion wear to a selected body part to facilitate decorating said selected body part with decorative indicia.

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed August 1, 2002, each one of the cited references has been reviewed, and the rejections and objections made to the claims by the Examiner have been considered. The claims presently on file in the above-identified application are believed to be patentably distinguishable over the cited references, and therefore allowance of these claims is earnestly solicited.

In order to render the claims more clear and definite, and to emphasize the patentable novelty thereof, claims 1-5 and 8-10 have been amended and new claims 21-33 have been added.

New Claims

New independent claims 21 and 22 are apparatus and method claims that recite the